

Claims:

1. DNA material comprising either a T7 promoter or the xylA promoter, and a ribosome binding site from a Gram-positive bacterium, and a reporter gene, which is operably linked to the promoter.
2. DNA material of claim 1, wherein the reporter gene is a luciferase.
3. DNA material of any of claims 1 or 2, wherein the plasmid additionally comprises a selection marker and/or an origin of replication.
4. DNA material of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the DNA material comprises a sequence selected from the group comprising
 - (i) the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5;
 - (ii) a sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:5;
 - (iii) the sequence of SEQ ID NO:6; and
 - (iv) a sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO:6.
5. A method to determine whether a test substance has anti-microbial activity against Gram-positive bacteria, comprising the steps of
 - (i) incubating the test substance with bacterial cell extract of a Gram-positive bacterium and the DNA material of any of claims 1 to 4; and
 - (ii) detecting a signal resulting from the expression of said reporter gene.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the Gram-positive bacterium is *Staphylococcus*, *Pneumococcus* or *Enterococcus*.
7. The method of claim 5 or 6, wherein said bacterial cell extract is a bacterial S30 cell extract.
8. The method of claim 6 or 7, wherein said incubation is on a multi-well plate, suitable for use in a plate reader.